AN ORDINANCE BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMIT**104**E - 0357

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE EXTENSION OF CURRENT 2004 LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM APRIL 1, 2004 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta has been and continues to be a burgeoning international city and destination for visitors from throughout the region, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, because of this destination status, the City of Atlanta has developed a vibrant and successful nightlife culture; and

WHEREAS, this vibrant nightlife culture in the City of Atlanta is manifested and supported by a high concentration of nightclubs and stores licensed to sell alcohol; and

WHEREAS, the regulation and enforcement of the city's alcohol licensing code requires substantial manpower and monetary resources; and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of establishments contribute to a myriad of problems, including, but not limited to, traffic congestion, lack of police visibility and enforcement, and crowd control; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council is dedicated to providing the resources necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of Atlanta's citizens and its visitors; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that a comprehensive review be done of the City's alcoholic licensing code; and

WHEREAS, the City approved Ordinance Number 03-O-2149 to provide that licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages be granted during the calendar year 2004 effective only for the period of January 1, 2004 through March 31, 2004 to allow for a comprehensive review of the City's alcohol licensing code; and

WHEREAS, in order to allow time for consideration of the legislation introduced as a result of that comprehensive review, the City now wishes to extend the time of those licenses through the end of 2004 in order to save the police department and applicants time and money normally associated with the renewal application process.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS as follows:

<u>Section 1.</u> Any person granted a license for the sale of alcoholic beverages pursuant to Ordinance Number 03-O-2149 during the calendar year 2004 may have their license renewed for the period of April 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, without filing a renewal application, subject to payment of all applicable fees as stated in Section 2.

<u>Section 2.</u> All annual fees for alcohol licenses issued shall be paid and prorated accordingly.

<u>Section 3</u>. That all ordinances and parts of ordinance in conflict are hereby waived for this instance only.